

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Donald J. Merkley, et al.
Application No.:	09/970,389
Filing Date:	October 2, 2001
Group Art Unit:	1741
Examiner:	Mark Halpern
Confirmation No.:	9683
For:	Method and Apparatus for Reducing Impurities in Cellulose Fibers for Manufacture of Fiber Reinforced Cement Composite Materials

OK TO ENTER /MH/

VIA EFS-Web

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND
REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY OF LAST OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to an Office Action mailed July 18, 2011 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of said Office Action on the ground that the finality of the rejection is premature.

Applicants first wish to thank Primary Examiner Mark Halpern for holding a telephone interview with Applicants' representatives on October 4, 2011, and for agreeing to withdraw the finality of the Office Action upon showing that Applicants had only presented one amendment as part of the most recently filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE).